

SHERIFF'S OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS APRIL - MAY 2007

I. Department-wide

- Law Enforcement Torch Run
 - The Page leg was on 4-28-07 and went from the state line of Utah MP 557 on US 89 to Cedar Ridge MP 505 on US 89. Sgt. Aaron Clouse and Sgt. Mike Barnes (Page Detention Facility) biked and ran from MP 517 to MP 505. Park Service, Adult Probation, and Page Police Department were responsible for other ten mile stretches along the route.
 - The Williams leg was on 5-1-07 and went along Old Route 66 from Garland Prairie to Bellemont Truck Stop. Deputy Jennifer Morrison and her husband biked the course.
 - The Flagstaff leg was on 5-2-07 and went the length of Schnebly Hill Road from I-17 to Sedona. Below is a photo of the many participants who walked, ran, biked, rode horses, and provided support along the route.



- Bike to Work Week Kickoff Donations – Tom Ross (Evidence and Property Manager) and David Bianco (HR Admin Manager) worked with the Flagstaff Biking Organization to refurbish and donate 22 bikes for this event. Bikes were unclaimed property in the custody of the Sheriff's Office.
- On May 5, the Sheriff's Office participated in the Ponderosa Fire Advisory Council drill conducted in the area of Lake Mary Meadows. The communications command trailer was utilized and the CERT team also participated in the training.
- On May 15, Sheriff's Office personnel took part in a Multi Agency Mass Casualty drill in the community of Tusayan. The drill was sponsored by the Tusayan Fire Department and consisted of a mock accident between a passenger van and a large bus with over 50 patients. The drill allowed personnel from all agencies to evaluate their individual response to this type of incident as well as test current procedures for interagency cooperation. Participating agencies included: Sheriff's Office, Coconino County Emergency Management, Tusayan Fire Department, National Park Service (Grand Canyon), AZ Department of Public Safety, Grand Canyon Airport Fire, Guardian Medical, and Flagstaff Medical Center.
- On May 17, the spring 2007 Citizens' Police Academy graduated 35 participants. The fall class is scheduled to start in September.

II. Search & Rescue (SAR)

SEARCH AND RESCUE UNIT

- On April 27 the Search and Rescue unit responded to three SAR calls:
 - Overdue hiker in Paria Canyon. A 60-year old, solo hiker was two days overdue from a 37 mile hike. Efforts were coordinated with Arizona Department of Public Safety Air Rescue, Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and Kane County Sheriff's Office in Utah. The hiker was located a couple of miles upstream from Lee's Ferry in Paria Canyon on the morning of April 28. He was flown to the hospital in Page for treatment.
 - Overdue hiker on the Hot Loop Trail in Sedona. This incident was on the border between Yavapai County and Coconino County. Due to concurrent incidents in Coconino County, the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Unit handled this call.

- Overdue aircraft out of the Grand Canyon Airport in Tusayan. The Search and Rescue Unit and Williams Patrol began initial investigative efforts and arrangements were made for an air search at first light since there was no active emergency locator transmitter or flight plan. The pilot hiked out to Highway 64 the next morning and hitchhiked back to his home in Tusayan.
- On April 29, the Search and Rescue Unit conducted an additional search operation at the Little Colorado River Gorge for Reinhard Kirchner. This effort employed ground searchers, a cadaver dog from Yavapai County, and the DPS Air Rescue Unit for air search operations. No significant clues were found so the search has been suspended pending the development of any clues. **Chuck Larue who is an experienced and respected outdoorsman in our area has been assisting us as a technical advisor on the Little Colorado River Gorge search. Commenting on the efforts of our SAR team, he said, “When I told my wife how much work you guys did looking for him (Kirchner), she said ‘Now that is the team I want looking for me if I get lost.’ I feel the same way too.”**
- On May 3, Search and Rescue responded along with the Flagstaff Fire Department, Guardian Medical Transport, and DPS Air Rescue to a report of a climbing accident on Mt. Elden. Sheriff’s Office Heli-Rescue Technicians and Technical Rescue Team also responded. The patient was extracted by helicopter short haul, transferred to Guardian Medical, and was then transported to Flagstaff Medical Center.

MOUNTED UNIT

- On May 6, SAR Mounted Unit conducted a mock search in the Elden Springs area.
- Deputy Bill Rackley was elected as the President of the Arizona Mounted Officers Association. Deputy Rackley has been recognized as a leader in mounted law enforcement and mounted search and rescue within the state.
- The Sheriff’s Office Mounted Unit assisted the Flagstaff Police Department during NAU graduation week. The horses had a notable effect on the crowds and were used to disperse several fights. Many positive comments were received from the merchants and patrons of the downtown businesses.

